PROJECT NUMBER: RADV2008-01325

CASES: N/A



* * * * * INITIAL STUDY * * * *

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

GENERAL INFORMATION

C.S. II Date: September 22, 2008 Staff Member: Jeffrey A. Juarez						
Thomas Guide: Pages 589, 590, 630 USGS Quad: Topanga, Malibu Beach						
The Topanga area Community Standards Districts are located in the Santa Monica Mountains, Location: along the Coastal Zone Boundary, west of the City of Los Angeles, south of the City of Woodland Hills, and north of the City of Malibu.						
Description of Project: Amendments to the Topanga Canyon and Santa Monica North Area Community						
Standards Districts (CSDs) authorizing the Director of Regional Planning to consider yard modifications for						
construction of fences and walls exceeding the maximum allowable height within required yard setbacks, and						
establishing development standards for fences and walls. The current CSDs authorize consideration of yard						
modifications only through the variance procedure contained in Part 2 of Chapter 22.56 of the Planning and						
Zoning Code. The proposed amendments will limit fences and walls within required yard setbacks to a						
maximum height of six feet.						
Gross Acres: <u>4,709</u>						
Environmental Setting:The area potentially affected by the amendment is situated within the eastern						
unincorporated Santa Monica Mountains. The area is characterized by the presence of urban-density single-						
family residences, neighborhood commercial areas along Topanga Canyon Boulevard, and narrow winding						
mountain roads. The terrain includes rolling and steep hills, some with Significant Ridgelines, streams,						
canyons, and ponds. The area's flora consists of native vegetation, such as oak trees, chaparral, scrub, and						
ornamental landscaping, and its diverse fauna includes Steelhead Trout, Southwestern Pond Turtles, red-						
Legged frogs, coyotes, bobcats, and red-tailed hawks.						
Zoning: A-1, A-2, R-1, R-R, O-S, C-3, M-1						
General Plan: R – Rural Communities, O – Open Space, SEA – Significant Ecological Area						
Parks, Residential I, Institution and Public Facilities, Rural Land I, Rural Land Community/Area wide Plan: II, Rural Land III, Mountain Land, Rural Commercial						

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Major projects in area: PROJECT NUMBER Not Applicable NOTE: For EIRs, above projects are not sufficient for cumulative analysis.

REVIEWING AGENCIES

Responsible Agencies	Special Reviewing Agencies	Regional Significance
None	None	None
Regional Water Quality Control Board	Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy	SCAG Criteria
Los Angeles Region	National Parks	Air Quality
Lahontan Region	☐ National Forest	☐ Water Resources
Coastal Commission	☐ Edwards Air Force Base	Santa Monica Mtns. Area
Army Corps of Engineers	Resource Conservation District of Santa Monica Mtns. Area	
Fish & Wildlife Service	Caltrans	
	Cal State Fullerton	County Reviewing Agencies
		Subdivision Committee
		DPW: Land Development
		Traffic and Lighting
		Geotechnical and Materials Engineering
Trustee Agencies		Waterworks and Sewer Maintenance
		Drainage and Grading
State Fish and Game		Parks and Recreation
State Parks		Fire Department
		Sheriff
		Public Library
		Public Health
		Sanitation Districts

IMPACT ANALY	ANALYSIS SUMMARY (See individual pages for details)							
		Less than Significant Impact/No Impact						
				I	Less t	than Significant Impact with Project Mitigation		
						Potentially Significant Impact		
CATEGORY	FACTOR	Pg				Potential Concern		
HAZARDS	1. Geotechnical	5						
	2. Flood	6						
	3. Fire	7						
	4. Noise	8						
RESOURCES	1. Water Quality	9						
	2. Air Quality	10						
	3. Biota	11						
	4. Cultural Resources	12						
	5. Mineral Resources	13						
	6. Agriculture Resources	14						
	7. Visual Qualities	15						
SERVICES	1. Traffic/Access	16						
	2. Sewage Disposal	17						
	3. Education	18						
	4. Fire/Sheriff	19						
	5. Utilities	20						
OTHER	1. General	21						
	2. Environmental Safety	22						
	3. Land Use	23						
	4. Pop/Hous./Emp./Rec.	24						
	5. Mandatory Findings	25						
As required by the environmental review 1. Development F	w procedure as prescribed by st	l Plan ate lav <u>rban l</u>	v. Expan	ision;		be employed in the Initial Study phase of the Rural Commercial; 7 – Non-Urban Hillside; 9 –		
2. Yes No	2. Yes No Is the project located in the Antelope Valley, East San Gabriel Valley, Malibu/Santa Monic Mountains or Santa Clarita Valley planning area?							
Check if DMS	expansion designation? equestions are answered "yes printout generated (attached)					ect to a County DMS analysis.		

☐ Check if DMS overview worksheet completed (attached)

*EIRs and/or staff reports shall utilize the most current DMS information available.

Environmental Finding:

this project qua	lifies for the following environmental docu	ment:	
NEGATIV environme	VE DECLARATION, inasmuch as the propent.	posed project	will not have a significant effect on the
environme not exceed	Study was prepared on this project in coental reporting procedures of the County of the established threshold criteria for any enificant effect on the physical environment.	Los Angeles. environmental	It was determined that this project will
	<u>TED NEGATIVE DECLARATION</u> , in as pacts to insignificant levels (see attached dis		
environme proposed p the project physical e	Study was prepared on this project in control reporting procedures of the County of project may exceed established threshold of the solution to the control of the control	f Los Angeles criteria. The a he project wi igate this in	It was originally determined that the applicant has agreed to modification of
	NMENTAL IMPACT REPORT*, inasmucl nificant impact due to factors listed above a		2 0 0
sta de:	At least one factor has been adequately andards, and has been addressed by mit scribed on the attached sheets (see attached analyze only the factors changed or not pre	igation meas Form DRP/L	ures based on the earlier analysis as A 101). The Addendum EIR is required
Reviewed by:	Jeffrey A. Juarez	Date:	September 17, 2008
Approved by:		Date:	
the propose	sed project is exempt from Fish and Game Od project will have potential for an adverse Fish & Game Code 753.5).		
Determination *NOTE: Findings project.	on appealed – see attached sheet. for Environmental Impact Reports will be prepare	ed as a separate	document following the public hearing on the

FINAL DETERMINATION: On the basis of this Initial Study, the Department of Regional Planning finds that

HAZARDS - 1. Geotechnical

SETTING/IMPACTS

	Yes	No	Maybe				
a.				Is the project located in an active or potentially active fault zone, Seismic Hazards Zone, or Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone?			
			<u>-</u>	Los Angeles County Safety Element: Fault Rupture Hazards and Historic Seismicity Map			
b.				Is the project site located in an area containing a major landslide(s)?			
			_	The project area contains some historic landslides (State of California Seismic Hazard Zones Map – Topanga, Malibu Beach Quads), but the project does not propose any new development in major landslide areas.			
c.				Is the project site located in an area having high slope instability?			
			<u>-</u>	The project area may have areas of high slope instability, but the project does not propose any new development in these areas.			
d.				Is the project site subject to high subsidence, high groundwater level, liquefaction, or hydrocompaction?			
				The project area contains historic or potential occurrence of liquefaction (State of California Seismic Hazard Zones Map – Topanga, Malibu Beach Quads), but the project does not propose any new development in these areas.			
e.				Is the proposed project considered a sensitive use (school, hospital, public assembly site) located in close proximity to a significant geotechnical hazard?			
				The project proposes a change in procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose any use that could be considered sensitive and located in close proximity to a significant geotechnical hazard.			
f.				Will the project entail substantial grading and/or alteration of topography including slopes of over 25%?			
			_	The project proposes a change in procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose new development. Future development of fences and walls may be subject to the County's grading ordinances.			
g.				Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?			
h.				Other factors?			
			-	N/A			
STA	NDAI	RD COD	E REQUI	REMENTS			
	Buildir	ng Ordina	ance No. 22	225 – Sections 308B, 309, 310, and 311 and Chapters 29 and 70			
	MITI(GATION	MEASUI	RES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS			
<u> </u>	Lot Siz	ze	Pr	oject Design Approval of Geotechnical Report by DPW			
The	propos	sed CSD	amendmen	ts entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not			
crea	te new	developi	nent that w	ould impact areas of geotechnical sensitivity. Future development of fences and walls may be			
subje	ect to t	he Count	ty's grading	g ordinances.			
Cons	CONCLUSION Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be impacted by, geotechnical factors?						
	☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☐ Less than significant/No Impact						

HAZARDS - 2. Flood

SETTING/IMPACTS

	Yes	No	Maybe	
a.				Is the major drainage course, as identified on USGS quad sheets by a dashed line, located on the project site? The project area includes Topanga, Old Topanga, Greenleaf, Hondo, Dix, Tuna, Red Rock, Santa Maria and Garapito Creeks (Malibu Beach and Topanga Quads), but no development is proposed that could impact these major drainage courses.
b.				Is the project site located within or does it contain a floodway, floodplain, or designated flood hazard zone?
				The project area contains a 100-year flood plain (Los Angeles County Safety Element: Flood and Inundation Hazards Map), but no development is proposed in the floodplain area.
c.				Is the project site located in or subject to high mudflow conditions?
				The project area may have areas of high mudflow conditions, but the project does not propose any new development in areas subject to these conditions.
d.				Could the project contribute or be subject to high erosion and debris deposition from run-off?
			_	The project does not propose new development. Future development of fences and walls may be subject to the County's grading ordinances to address any potential concerns related to erosion and debris deposition from run-off.
e.				Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area?
			<u>-</u>	The project does not propose new development that could alter drainage patterns of the project area.
f.				Other factors (e.g., dam failure)?
			_	N/A
STA	NDAI	RD CO	DE REQ	UIREMENTS
H	Buildin	g Ordin	nance No.	2225 – Section 308A Ordinance No. 12,114 (Floodways)
A	Approv	al of D	rainage C	oncept by DPW
	MITIO	GATIO	N MEAS	SURES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
	ot Size	e	Project	Design
The	propos	sed CSI	D amendm	nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not
crea	te new	develo	pment. F	uture development of fences and walls may be subject to the County's grading ordinances
to ac	ldress	potenti	al floods i	impacts and drainage problems.
CO	NCLU	SION		
		_		rmation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be ogical) factors?
☐ F	otentia	ally sig	nificant	Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact

HAZARDS - <u>3. Fire</u>

SETTING/IMPACTS

	Yes	No	Maybe				
a.				Is the project site located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Fire Zone 4)?			
				A majority of the project area is located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Los Angeles County Safety Element – Wildland and Urban Fire Hazards Map), but the project does not propose new development.			
b.				Is the project site in a high fire hazard area and served by inadequate access due to lengths, width, surface materials, turnarounds or grade? The project area is in a high fire hazard area served by inadequate access due to narrow and often steep roads, but the project does not propose new development that could worsen access conditions.			
c.				Does the project site have more than 75 dwelling units on a single access in a high fire hazard area?			
			_	The project area includes Hillside Drive east and west of Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Entrada Road east of Topanga Canyon Boulevard that have more than 75 dwelling units on a single access in a high fire hazard area, but no development is proposed in these areas.			
d.				Is the project site located in an area having inadequate water and pressure to meet fire flow standards? The project area may have inadequate water and pressure to meet fire flow standards, however the project proposes no new development that could increase demands on already-inadequate water and pressure capacity.			
e.				Is the project located in close proximity to potential dangerous fire hazard conditions/uses (such as refineries, flammables, explosives manufacturing)? The project area contains development that utilizes propane tanks, but the project does not propose development that could increase the use of propane tanks or be in close proximity to potentially dangerous fire hazard conditions/uses.			
f.				Does the proposed use constitute a potentially dangerous fire hazard?			
				The project does not propose a new use or new development. The proposed amendments do not authorize buildings to be erected in required yard setbacks, therefore no potentially dangerous fire hazard will be created.			
g.				Other factors?			
				$N\!/\!A$			
ST.	NIDAD	D COD	NE DEAL	IREMENTS			
•	Water O	rdinanc	e No. 7834	Fire Ordinance No. 2947 Fire Regulation No. 8			
	Fuel Mo	odificati	ion / Lands	scape Plan			
	MITIG	ATION	N MEASU	RES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS			
	Project I	Design	Compa	tible Use			
The	propose	ed CSD	amendmer	nts entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not create new			
deve	elopmen	t. The p	proposed a	mendments do not authorize buildings to be erected in required yard setbacks, therefore no			
			ous fire haz	ard will be created.			
Con	NCLUS sidering hazard	the abo		ation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be impacted by			
	Potentially significant Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact						

HAZARDS - <u>4. Noise</u>

SETTING/IMPACTS Vas No Mayl

	Yes	No	Maybe				
a.				Is the project site located near a high noise source (airports, railroads, freeways, industry)?			
b.				The project area does not contain and is not near any high noise sources. Is the proposed use considered sensitive (school, hospital, senior citizen facility) or are there other sensitive uses in close proximity? The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose any new use that could be considered sensitive or is in close proximity to sensitive uses.			
c.				Could the project substantially increase ambient noise levels including those associated with special equipment (such as amplified sound systems) or parking areas associated with the project?			
				The project does not propose new development.			
d.				Would the project result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels without the project? The project does not propose new development. Future development may be subject to the			
				County's noise ordinance.			
e.				Other factors?			
				$N\!/\!A$			
STA	ANDA	RD CO	ODE REQ	QUIREMENTS			
	Noise	Contro	l (Title 12	- Chapter 8) Uniform Building Code (Title 26 - Chapter 35)			
	MITI	GATI	ON MEAS	SURES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS			
	Lot Size Project Design Compatible Use						
				nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not			
crec	ite nev	v devel	opment. F	Future development of fences and walls may be subject to the County's noise ordinance.			
Con	sideri	-	above info ed by nois	rmation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be se?			
	Potent	ially sig	gnificant	Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact			

RESOURCES - 1. Water Quality SETTING/IMPACTS Yes No Maybe Is the project site located in an area having known water quality problems and proposing the use of a. individual water wells? The project area is known to have water quality problems, but the project does not propose new development or uses that could contribute to known water quality problems, and does not propose the use of individual water wells. Will the proposed project require the use of a private sewage disposal system? b. The project does not propose development that could require the use of private sewage disposal If the answer is yes, is the project site located in an area having known septic tank limitations due to П high groundwater or other geotechnical limitations or is the project proposing on-site systems located in close proximity to a drainage course? Could the project's associated construction activities significantly impact the quality of groundwater П c. and/or storm water runoff to the storm water conveyance system and/or receiving water bodies? The project does not propose new development. Future development may be subject to compliance with NPDES standards. Could the project's post-development activities potentially degrade the quality of storm water runoff and/or could post-development non-storm water discharges contribute potential pollutants to the storm d. water conveyance system and/or receiving bodies? The project does not propose new development. Future development may be subject to compliance with NPDES standards. Other factors? N/A STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

Industrial Waste Permit	Health Coc	ie – Ordinance No. 7585, Chapter 5
☐ Plumbing Code – Ordinance No.2269	NPDES Permit Complia	ance (DPW)
☐ MITIGATION MEASURES		OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
☐ Lot Size	mpatible Use	

The proposed Topanga Canyon CSD amendment entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and

will not create new development. Future development of fences and walls may be subject to compliance with NPDES standards.

CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be adversely impacted by, water quality problems?

☐ Potentially significant	Less than significant with project mitigation	Less than significant/No impact
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RESOURCES - 2. Air Quality

SETTING/IMPACTS

	Yes	No	Maybe				
a.				Will the proposed project exceed the State's criteria for regional significance (generally (a) 500 dwelling units for residential users or (b) 40 gross acres, 650,000 square feet of floor area or 1,000 employees for non-residential uses)?			
b.		•		The project proposes changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose development that could exceed the State's criteria for regional significance. Is the proposal considered a sensitive use (schools, hospitals, parks) and located near a freeway or heavy industrial use? The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not			
c.				propose development or uses considered sensitive and located near a freeway or heavy industrial use. Will the project increase local emissions to a significant extent due to increased traffic congestion or use of a parking structure or exceed AQMD thresholds of potential significance? The project proposes changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not			
d.			•	propose development that could increase traffic congestion or require use of a parking structure, and therefore will not increase local emissions or exceed AQMD thresholds. Will the project generate or is the site in close proximity to sources that create obnoxious odors, dust, and/or hazardous emissions? The project area does have some sources of obnoxious odors and dust, but the project does not propose new development that could increase obnoxious odors, dust, and/or hazardous emissions in the project area.			
e.				Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			
f.	П		П	The project proposes changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose development that could obstruct implementation of applicable air quality plans. Would the project violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air			
g.				quality violation? The project proposes changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose development that could violate air quality standards or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emission which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? The project proposes changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose development that could result cumulatively in a considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant.			
h.				Other factors?			
				N/A			
STA	NDAR	RD CODE	E REQUIR	EMENTS			
Н	lealth a	and Safety	y Code – Se	ection 40506			
	MITIG	GATION	MEASUR	ES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS			
□ P	☐ Project Design ☐ Air Quality Report						
The p	propos	ed CSD a	mendments	entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not create			
new o	develoj	pment tha	ıt could imp	act air quality plans, increase traffic congestion or air pollutants, violate air quality standards, or exceed			
CON Cons	ICLUS	g the abov		on, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be adversely impacted			
ПР	otentia	ılly signifi	icant	Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact			

RESOURCES - 3. Biota

SET	TING Yes	H IMPA No	CTS Maybe		
a.			•	Is the project site located within Significant Ecological Area (SEA), SEA Buffer, or coastal Sensitive Environmental Resource (ESHA, etc.), or is the site relatively undisturbed and natural? Approximately 4 percent of the project area contains ESHA and less than 1percent contains SEA (Los Angeles County 1986 Malibu Land Use Plan and Los Angeles County SEA Map). The project does not propose development, and future development of fences and walls in these areas may be subject to review by the Environmental Review Board (ERB)	
b.				Will grading, fire clearance, or flood related improvements remove substantial natural habitat areas?	
		_		The project does not propose new development that could result in removal of substantial natural habitat areas. Future development of fences and walls may be subject to the County's grading ordinances, and may be subject to review by the ERB.	
c.			•	Is a drainage course located on the project site that is depicted on USGS quad sheets by a dashed blue line or that may contain a bed, channel, or bank of any perennial, intermittent or ephemeral river, stream, or lake? The project area includes Topanga, Old Topanga, Greenleaf, Hondo, Dix, Tuna, Red Rock, Santa Maria, and Garapito Creeks (Malibu Beach and Topanga Quads), but the creek areas comprise a small portion of the project area, and no development is proposed that could impact any drainage	
d.			•	Courses. Does the project site contain a major riparian or other sensitive habitat (e.g. coastal sage scrub, oak woodland, sycamore riparian, woodland, etc.)? Substantial portions of the project area contain major riparian and sensitive habitat areas (Significant Woodlands and Savannas). Future development of fences and walls in these areas may be subject to review by the ERB and the County's oak tree ordinance.	
e.				Does the project site contain oak or other unique native trees (specify kinds of trees)?	
			_	The project area contains Coast Live Oak, Scrub Oak, and California Walnut trees. Future development of fences and walls potentially impacting oak trees will be subject to the requirements of the County's oak tree ordinance, which is not affected by these amendments. Developments requiring oak tree permits or potentially impacting unique native trees may be subject to review by the ERB.	
f.				Is the project site habitat for any known sensitive species (federal or state listed endangered, etc.)?	
				Very limited portions of the project area contain Steelhead Trout and Southwestern Pond Turtle habitat areas. Future development of fences and walls in these areas may be subject to review by the ERB.	
g.				Other factors (e.g., wildlife corridor, adjacent open space linkage)?	
				The project area includes several canyons and creeks, such as Topanga Creek, and publicly-owned open space which serve as wildlife corridors. Future development of fences and walls in required yards on private property will not obstruct, block, or narrow known wildlife corridors and open space linkages.	
	MITIO	GATIO:	N MEASU	RES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	
	ot Siz	e P	roject Desig	gn ERB/SEATAC Review Oak Tree Permit	
The	propos	sed CSD) amendmen	ts entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not create new	
deve	lopme	nt. The	project doe	s not propose alteration of the County's existing oak tree ordinance, and future development of	
fenc	es and	walls re	equiring oal	tree permits or potentially impacting unique native trees may be subject to review by the ERB.	
COI	NCLU	SION		ation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, biotic resources?	
☐ F	Potentially significant Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact				

RESOURCES - 4. Archaeological/Historical/Paleontological

SETTING/IMPACTS Yes No Maybe Is the project site in or near an area containing known archaeological resources or containing features (drainage course, spring, knoll, rock outcroppings, or oak trees) that indicate a. potential archaeological sensitivity? The project area may include areas containing archaeological resources, and does contain oak trees and drainage courses - features indicating potential archaeological sensitivity. No development is proposed that could impact any archaeological resource areas. Future development of fences and walls may be subject to the County's oak tree ordinance, and will not block, obstruct, or impede drainage courses. b. Does the project site contain rock formations indicating potential paleontological resources? The project area may include areas containing rock formations indicating potential paleontological resources. No development is proposed that could impact any potential paleontological resources, and future development of fences and walls will not occur in areas containing rock formations, therefore no potential paleontological resources could be impacted. Does the project site contain known historic structures or sites? c. The project area may contain a small number of historic structures. No development is proposed, and future development will be subject to proposed development standards requiring fence and wall design be compatible with known historic structures. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical or d. archaeological resource as defined in 15064.5? The project does not propose new development that could cause any substantial adverse changes in the significance of a historical or archaeological resource. Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or e. unique geologic feature? The project does not propose new development that could directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. Other factors? f. N/A **MITIGATION MEASURES** OTHER CONSIDERATIONS Project Design Phase 1 Archaeology Report Lot Size The proposed CSD amendments entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not create new development. Future development of fences and walls will be subject to the County's oak tree ordinance, and requests for oak tree permits may be subject to review by the ERB. **CONCLUSION** Considering the above information, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on

archaeological, historical, or paleontological resources?

☐ Potentially significant	Less than significant with project mitigation	Less than significant/No impact
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RESOURCES - 5. Mineral Resources

SETTING/IMPACTS No Yes Maybe Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that a. would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? The project area does not contain Mineral Resource Zones as defined by the State of California. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource discovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land b. use plan? The project area does not contain Mineral Resource Zones as defined by the State of California. Other factors? c. N/A**MITIGATION MEASURES** OTHER CONSIDERATIONS Project Design Lot Size The project area does not contain Mineral Resource Zones as defined by the State of California. **CONCLUSION**

Considering the above information, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on mineral

Less than significant with project mitigation

resources?

Potentially significant

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Less than significant/No impact

RESOURCES - 6. Agriculture Resources

SETTING/IMPACTS Yes No Maybe Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping a. and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency to non-agricultural use? No identified Farmland exists in the project area (Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program Map). Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act b. The project does not change zoning, and no Williamson Act contracts exist in the project Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment that due to their location c. or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use? No identified Farmland exists in the project area. Other factors? d. N/A**MITIGATION MEASURES** OTHER CONSIDERATIONS Project Design Lot Size The project area does not contain identified Farmland.

CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on **agriculture** resources?

		_
☐ Potentially significant	Less than significant with project mitigation	Less than significant/No impact

RESOURCES - 7. Visual Qualities

SETTING/IMPACTS

	Yes	No	Maybe	
a.				Is the project site substantially visible from or will it obstruct views along a scenic highway (as shown on the Scenic Highway Element), or is it located within a scenic corridor or will it otherwise impact the viewshed?
				The project area does contain designated Scenic Elements, a Scenic Route, a Scenic Point, and existing and proposed Significant Ridgelines considered valuable visual resources in the Topanga
				Canyon area. However the proposed development standards include fence and wall height and transparency provisions (see below) to protect viewsheds and maximize visibility of the visual
b.	П			resources from roadways. Is the project substantially visible from or will it obstruct views from a regional riding or hiking
	_			trail? The project does not propose any new development. The proposed development standards include fence and wall height and transparency provisions to maximize views of the surrounding Topanga Canyon area from regional riding and hiking trails.
c.				Is the project site located in an undeveloped or undisturbed area that contains unique aesthetic features?
				The project area is primarily a developed area.
d.				Is the proposed use out-of-character in comparison to adjacent uses because of height, bulk, or other features?
				The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does
				not propose any new development or use. The proposed development standards contain provisions to regulate fence and wall height and materials for compatibility with adjacent natural and residential areas.
e.				Is the project likely to create substantial sun shadow, light or glare problems?
				The project does not propose new development. The proposed development standards contain provisions to regulate fence and wall height and transparency to reduce sun shadow, light or glare problems.
f.				Other factors (e.g., grading or landform alteration)?
				N/A
	MITI	GATIO	N MEAS	URES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
	ot Siz	ze P	roject Des	ign Uisual Report Compatible Use
The j	propo	sed CSL) amendm	ents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and
will	not cr	eate nev	v developn	nent. The proposed development standards for future fences and walls will address
any _I	potent	ial impa	ıcts to visu	nal quality, visual resources, and sun shadow, light or glare problems in the project
area	. Fen	ces and	walls in re	equired yard setbacks exceeding 42 inches in height will be limited to six feet in
			subject to	o minimum transparency levels.
CON	NCLU	SION		
Cons		ng the ab	ove inform	mation, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on scenic
□ P	otenti	ally sign	nificant	Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact

SERVICES - 1. Traffic/Access

SETTING/IMPACTS

	Yes	No	Maybe			
a.				Does the project contain 25 dwelling units or more and is it located in an area with known congestion problems (roadway or intersections)? The project area does have known congestion problems but the project does not propose any new development that would increase congestion problems.		
b.				Will the project result in any hazardous traffic conditions?		
				The project does not propose new development. The proposed development standards include provisions for fence and wall height and transparency to enhance line-of-sight visibility.		
c.				Will the project result in parking problems with a subsequent impact on traffic conditions?		
d.		•		The project will not affect parking capacity; no development is proposed. Will inadequate access during an emergency (other than fire hazards) result in problems for emergency vehicles or residents/employees in the area? The proposed amendments do not authorize the narrowing, blocking, or impeding of public rights-of-way in the Topanga Canyon area.		
e.				Will the congestion management program (CMP) Transportation Impact Analysis thresholds of 50 peak hour vehicles added by project traffic to a CMP highway system intersection or 150 peak hour trips added by project traffic to a mainline freeway link be exceeded? The project does not propose new development, therefore no traffic thresholds will be exceeded.		
f.				Would the project conflict with adopted policies, plans, or program supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus, turnouts, bicycle racks)? The proposed amendments do not authorize the narrowing, blocking, or impeding of public rights-of-way in the Topanga Canyon area, nor will these amendments prevent bus lanes/stops, turnouts, or bicycles racks from being used or implemented.		
g.				Other factors?		
			-	N/A		
	MITI	GATIO	N MEAS	SURES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS		
	Projec	t Desig	n 🔲 7	Fraffic Report ☐ Consultation with Traffic & Lighting Division		
The	propo	sed CSI	D amendn	nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not		
				at would increase traffic congestion in the project area. The proposed development standards		
				ald enhance line-of-sight visibility for emergency responders and residents/employees in the		
	•			o not propose any changes that would restrict or prevent access to or along public rights-of-		
CO: Con traf	CONCLUSION Considering the above information, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on traffic/access factors? Description: Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact					

SERVICES - 2. Sewage Disposal

SET	Yes	G/IMP No	ACTS Maybe		
a.				If served by a community sewage system, could the project create capacity problems at the treatment plant?	
				Parcels in the project area use onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS).	
b.				Could the project create capacity problems in the sewer lines serving the project site?	
				Parcels in the project area use OWTS.	
c.				Other factors?	
				N/A	
STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS Sanitary Sewers and Industrial Waste – Ordinance No. 6130 Plumbing Code – Ordinance No. 2269					
			ON MEAS		
The	prope	osed CS	SD amendr	ments entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not	
crea	create new development.				
CO	CONCLUSION				
	Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the physical environment due to sewage disposal facilities?				
	☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☐ Less than significant/No impact				

SERVICES - 3. Education

SET	SETTING/IMPACTS					
	Yes	No	Maybe			
a.				Could the project create capacity problems at the district level?		
				The project does not propose new development and will not increase student population in the project area.		
b.				Could the project create capacity problems at individual schools that will serve the project site? The project does not propose new development and will not increase student population in		
				the project area.		
c.				Could the project create student transportation problems?		
				The project does not propose new development and will not increase student population in the project area that could impact student transportation.		
d.				Could the project create substantial library impacts due to increased population and demand?		
				The project does not propose new development and will not increase student population or demand for library services in the project area.		
e.				Other factors?		
				N/A		
	MITI	GATIC	ON MEAS	SURES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS		
	Site D	edicatio	on 📕	Government Code Section 65995		
The	propo	sed CS	D amendn	nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not		
crec	ate nev	v develo	pment the	at could increase student population in the project area and impact school capacity,		
stud	lent tre	ansport	ation, or i	ncrease demand for library services.		
co	CONCLUSION					
Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) relative to educational facilities/services?						
	☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☐ Less than significant/No impact					

SERVICES - 4. Fire/Sheriff Services

SE	SETTING/IMPACTS					
	Yes	No	Maybe			
a.				Could the project create staffing or response time problems at the fire station or sheriff's substation serving the project site? The project does not propose new development and will not increase the population of the project area, therefore this project will not increase demand for fire and sheriff services. In addition, the proposed development standards contain fence and wall height and transparency provisions to enhance line-of-sight visibility for emergency responders.		
b.				Are there any special fire or law enforcement problems associated with the project or the general area? The project does not propose new development and will not increase the population of the project area to increase demand on fire and sheriff services.		
c.				Other factors?		
				N/A		
	☐ MITIGATION MEASURES					
				nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not		
				at would increase demand for fire and sheriff services. The proposed development standards		
con	tain fe	ence an	d wall max	cimum height and minimum transparency provisions to enhance line-of-sight visibility for		
eme	rgenc	y respo	nders.			
Con	sideri	USION ing the a	above info	rmation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) relative to		
	☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☐ Less than significant/No impact					

SERVICES - 5. Utilities/Other Services

SE	l'TIN(÷/IMP	ACTS	
	Yes	No	Maybe	
a.				Is the project site in an area known to have an inadequate public water supply to meet domestic needs or to have an inadequate ground water supply and proposes water wells? The project area does not have inadequate water supply, but no development is proposed that could increase population and demand for public water supply or require the use of water wells.
b.				Is the project site in an area known to have an inadequate water supply and/or pressure to meet fire fighting needs? The project area may have inadequate water and pressure to meet fire fighting needs, but no development is proposed that could increase population and demand for water supply and pressure for fire fighting needs, or compromise current service levels.
c.				Could the project create problems with providing utility services, such as electricity, gas, or propane? The project does not propose new development that could increase population and demand for utility services, or compromise current service levels.
d.				Are there any other known service problem areas (e.g., solid waste)?
				The project area has a sanitary waste disposal problem due to failing septic tank systems, but the project does not propose new development that could increase population and demand for additional systems. The County does have landfills reaching capacity, but no population increases are proposed that would further burden existing landfills.
e.		•		Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services or facilities (e.g., fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, roads)? The project does not propose new development that could increase population and demand for new or physically-altered government facilities.
f.				Other factors?
				$N\!/\!A$
STA	ANDA	RD CO	DDE REQ	QUIREMENTS
	Plumb	ing Coo	de – Ordin	nance No. 2269 Water Code – Ordinance No. 7834
	MITI	GATIO	ON MEAS	SURES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
	Lot Siz	ze		Project Design
The	propo	sed CS	'D amendn	nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not
crec	ate nev	v devel	opment the	at could increase population and demand for utilities or other services.
Con util	isiderii ities se	ervices	?	rmation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) relative to
	Potenti	ially sig	gnificant	Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact
				00

OTHER FACTORS - 1. General

SETTING/IMPACTS Yes No Maybe Will the project result in an inefficient use of energy resources? a. The project does not propose new development that could result in the inefficient use of energy resources. Will the project result in a major change in the patterns, scale, or character of the general area b. or community? The project does not propose new development and does not propose changes to land use policy maps. The proposed amendments include provisions regulating fence and wall height and materials for compatibility with the Topanga Canyon area scale and character. Will the project result in a significant reduction in the amount of agricultural land? c. The project does not propose changes to land use categories or zoning, therefore no reduction in the amount of agricultural land will occur. Other factors? d. N/ASTANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS State Administrative Code, Title 24, Part 5, T-20 (Energy Conservation) **■ MITIGATION MEASURE** OTHER CONSIDERATIONS Lot Size Project Design Compatible Use The proposed CSD amendments entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not create new development or make changes to land use policy maps. The proposed amendments include provisions regulating fence and wall height and materials for compatibility with the Topanga Canyon area scale and character. **CONCLUSION** Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the physical environment due to any of the above factors?

Less than significant with project mitigation

Potentially significant

21 9/25/08

Less than significant/No impact

OTHER FACTORS - 2. Environmental Safety

SET		/IMPAC		
a.	Yes	No	Maybe	Are any hazardous materials used, transported, produced, handled, or stored on-site? Portions of the project area contain developments that utilize propane tanks, however no new development is proposed that could increase the use or storage of propane tanks or any hazardous materials within the project area.
b.				Are any pressurized tanks to be used or any hazardous wastes stored on-site? Portions of the project area contain developments that utilize propane tanks, however no new development is proposed that could increase the use or storage of propane tanks or any hazardous materials within the project area.
c.				Are any residential units, schools, or hospitals located within 500 feet and potentially adversely affected? The project proposes only changes to procedure and modifications to development standards. No new development is proposed.
d.				Have there been previous uses that indicate residual soil toxicity of the site or is the site located within two miles downstream of a known groundwater contamination source within the same watershed? The project area may contain previous uses that indicate residual soil toxicity or are located within two miles downstream of a known groundwater contamination source within the same watershed, but the proposed amendments do not authorize expansion of these uses or new uses that could contaminate water sources.
e.				Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment involving the accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment? The project does not propose development that could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment involving the potential accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment.
f.				Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? The project does not propose development that could emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.
g.				Would the project be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or environment? The project area does not contain any hazardous materials sites as referenced in the State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database.
h.				Would the project result in a safety hazard for people in a project area located within an airport land use plan, within two miles of a public or public use airport, or within the vicinity of a private airstrip? The project is not located within an airport land use plan, or within two miles of a public or public use airport, or within the vicinity of a private airstrip.
i.				Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? The project does not propose new development that could interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The amendments do not authorize the narrowing, blocking, or
j.				impeding of public rights-of-way that could restrict access to emergency services. Other factors? N/A
	MITIG	GATION	MEASUR	OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
Π	Toxic C	Clean-up F	Plan	
The	propos	ed CSD a	mendment	s entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not create
			authorize d	changes to land use policy maps, and will not result in the narrowing, blocking, or impeding access of
emei	rgency	services.		
	NCLUS sidering		ve informat	tion, could the project have a significant impact relative to public safety ?
☐ Potentially significant			ïcant	Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact

$OTHER\ FACTORS\ -\ \underline{3.\ Land\ Use}$

SE	SETTING/IMPACTS					
	Yes	No	Maybe			
a.				Can the project be found to be inconsistent with the plan designation(s) of the subject property?		
				The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and		
h				does not propose changes to land use or zoning in the project area. Can the project be found to be inconsistent with the zoning designation of the subject		
b.	Ш		Ш	property?		
				The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose changes to land use or zoning in the project area.		
c.				Can the project be found to be inconsistent with the following applicable land use criteria:		
				Hillside Management Criteria?		
				SEA Conformance Criteria?		
				Other?		
				N/A		
d.				Would the project physically divide an established community?		
				The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose any development that could physically divide an established community.		
e.				Other factors?		
				N/A		
ST	ANDA	RD C	ODE REC	QUIREMENTS		
	MITI	[GATI	ON MEAS	SURES OTHER CONSIDERATIONS		
The	propo	osed CS	SD amendr	nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not		
				make changes to land use policy maps.		
Cor	sideri		above info	rmation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the o land use factors?		
☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☐ Less than significant/No impact						

$OTHER\ FACTORS\ -\ \underline{4.\ Population/Housing/Employment/Recreation}$

SET	TIN	G/IMP	ACTS		
	Yes	No	Maybe		
a.				Could the project cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?	
				The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and does not propose changes to land use or zoning that could increase density or impact regional or local population projections.	
b.				Could the project induce substantial direct or indirect growth in an area (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)? The project area is already developed. No development is being proposed that could induce substantial direct or indirect growth in the area.	
c.				Could the project displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?	
				The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards. No development is being proposed that could displace existing housing, especially affordable housing.	
d.				Could the project result in substantial job/housing imbalance or substantial increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)? The project does not propose changes to the mix of housing and commercial uses. No development is being proposed that could result in a substantial job/housing imbalance or substantial increase in VMT.	
e.				Could the project require new or expanded recreational facilities for future residents?	
				The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards. No development is being proposed that could require new or expanded recreational facilities for future residents.	
f.				Would the project displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? The project entails changes to procedure and modifications to development standards. The project does not propose new development or redevelopment activities that could displace people.	
g.				Other factors?	
				N/A	
			ON MEAS		
				nents entail changes to procedure and modifications to development standards, and will not	
crec	ite nev	v devel	opment or	authorize changes to land use policy maps that could result in population increases.	
CO	CONCLUSION				
				rmation, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the o population, housing, employment, or recreational factors?	
	☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☐ Less than significant/No impact				

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Based on this Initial Study, the following findings are made:

	Yes	No	Maybe				
a.		•		Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			
b.				Does the project have possible environmental effects that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? "Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.			
c.				Will the environmental effects of the project cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			
			-				
CO	CONCLUSION						
	Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the environment?						
	Potentially significant Less than significant with project mitigation Less than significant/No impact						